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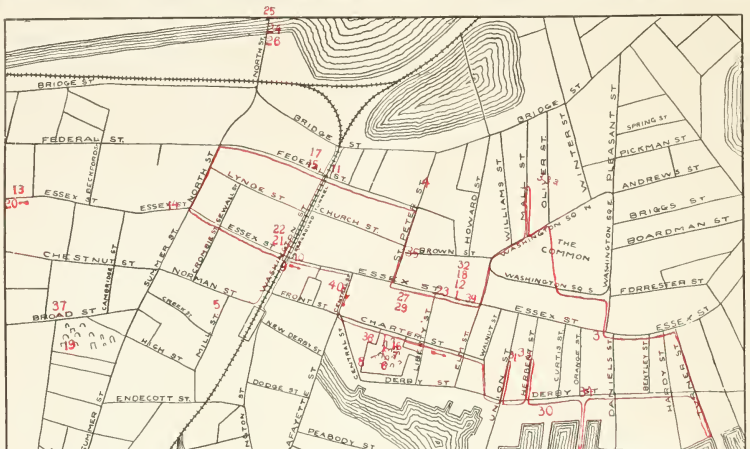
What to see in Salem



THIS MAP WILL ASSIST THE STRANGER TO FIND HIS WAY

BEGIN AT CORNER OF ESSEX AND WASHINGTON STREETS.

The red lines indicate a short walk beginning and ending at the centre of the city, which includes the most interesting and important objects, and which can be traversed in one to two hours, according to time spent at the two museums.

Important.—See red figures on map, then see corresponding figures below. Also see corresponding figures in the book, under illustrations.

1. At 132 Essex St., Roger Conant charter in Essex Institute.
2. At 93 Washington St., Indian deed in City Hall.
3. At 71 Essex St., Narbonne house, very old.
4. At 38 St. Peter St., Ward house, very old.
5. At 8 Mill St., Rock house, very old.
6. At 51 Charter St., Mayflower stone, in cemetery.
7. At 51 Charter St., oldest known stone in city.
8. At 51 Charter St., specimen of interesting ornamental stone.
9. At 225½ Essex St., site of first church.
10. At cor. of Essex and Washington Sts. (view of Essex St.)
11. At 23 Washington St., interesting old building.
12. At 132 Essex St., the Essex Institute, fine free museum.
13. At 370 Essex St., oil painting in library.
14. At 310 Essex St., Roger Williams or Witch house.
15. At 34 Federal St., witch death warrant.
16. At 51 Charter St., Judge Hathorne's stone in cemetery.
17. At 34 Federal St., witch pins in Court house (side entrance).
18. At 132 Essex St., oil painting in Essex Institute.
19. At 15 Broad St., Sheriff Corwin stone.
20. Direction to Boston St., thence to Hanson St., approaching Gallows hill (1 mile).
21. Opposite 109 Washington St., site of the Town house, where first Provincial Congress met.
22. Same as 21.
23. At 134 Essex St., Athenæum library.
24. At 66 North St., the bridge over North river.
25. At 68 North St., the tablet marking site of defiance to British troops.
26. Position of militiamen at North Bridge.
27. At 161 Essex St., painting in marine museum.
28. At 178 Derby St., Derby wharf.
29. At 161 Essex St., Peabody Academy of Science (marine museum.)
30. Derby St., (view of Derby St.)
31. At 27 Union St., Hawthorne's birthplace.
32. At 132 Essex St., Hawthorne desk, in Institute.
33. At 10½ & 12 Herbert St., where Hawthorne lived.

33a. At 14 Mall St., where Hawthorne wrote "The Scarlet Letter.

33b. At 54 Turner St., House of the Seven Gables.

34. At 178 Derby St., the Custom House, associated with Hawthorne's "The Scarlet Letter."
35. At 22 St. Peter St., Surveyor Pue stone.
36. At 53 Charter St., where Hawthorne's wife lived.
37. At 18 Broad St., home of Timothy Pickering.
38. At 256 Lafayette St., State Normal School (1 mile).
39. At 128 Essex St, house where White murder was committed.
40. At 4 Central St., old Custom house doorway.

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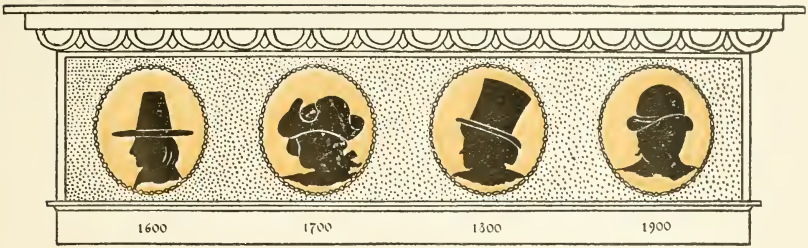

What is there to see here?

is the first question of the stranger.

Salem's principal points of distinction are:

First—It is the oldest city in Massachusetts—settled only six years after the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth (1626).

Second—The terrible witchcraft craze had its storm centre here (1692).

Third—It became a great commercial port during the eighteenth century (1700–1812).

Fourth—It took an exceptionally active part in the war of the Revolution (1775–1782), and the war of 1812.

Fifth—Nathaniel Hawthorne was born and wrote the Scarlet Letter here (1804–1864.)

The most important things to see are associated with these events.

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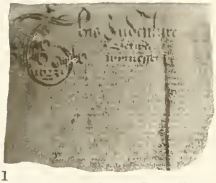
THE GREAT ANTIQUITY OF SALEM.

SALEM is very old. It is the oldest city in New England, being settled within six years after the arrival of the "Mayflower" at Plymouth. At that time (1626) the whole Massachusetts coast was an undisturbed wilderness, save the little settlements on Cape Cod and Cape Ann.

The Indians had a village here before the white men came, living in wigwams, and having cleared a considerable piece of ground, which they cultivated to corn.



1 (At Essex Institute.) Roger Conant Charter, granted by the King

The Indians were a quiet and peaceable tribe, however, and gave welcome to Roger Conant and his little band when they gave up struggling for a living on the bleak shores of Cape Ann, and came to their locality, which was described by Conant as a fruitful neck of land, projecting into the sea, with "grass thick and long, and very high, growing wildly," with strawberries everywhere, wild roses, brilliant and fragrant wild flowers, and scented herbs, raspberries, plums, grapes and other tempting wild fruits in profusion.

Even with all these advantages of nature, they had a hard time to get along, and were many times minded to remove to a new place, which they would have done, had it not been for the fidelity and perseverance of their leader.

In a few years the arrival of Endicott in the ship "Abigail" brought large accessions to their numbers and their supplies, and put the community on substantial and permanent footing. The ketching and curing of fish for shipment to Europe became a profitable industry, and in the course of a few years a flood tide of immigration set in toward the new America that brought Salem a flourishing and prosperous growth in population. Ship-building was engaged in, and sea commerce opened up with distant ports. Young Salem grew wealthy, influential and aristocratic. During the next two centuries she was the second place of importance in New England, and one of the principal ports in the thirteen colonies.

2 (3 Washington St., in City Hall.) The original Deed from the Indians to the early settlers, conveying title to the land.

Landmarks in the way of houses connected with that first

3 (71 Essex St.) The Narroonne house, built before 1680.

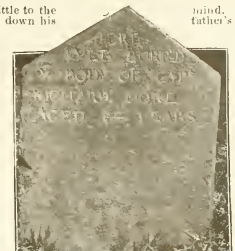
4 (38 St. Peter St.) Ward house, built 1684.

5 (8 Mill St.) The Ruck house, built before 1651.

VERY OLD HOUSES IN SALEM.

(Charter St. Cemetery.) A hare date often expresses little to the stones by recalling that when George Washington cut down his here nearly as long as he has now been dead.

6 This is the oldest stone in the city that is now legible. "Dorothy, wife of Philip Cromwell." 1673.

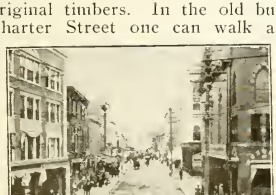


7 The only known grave stone of a passenger in the Mayflower. Capt. More, who landed at Plymouth in 1620.

behind. But one can get an idea of the age of the oldest of these father's famous cherry tree, these stones had already been standing

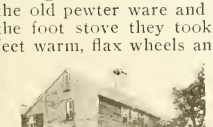
8 One of the many queerly carved and ornamented stones to be seen in the cemetery.

century of Salem's history are naturally not many for building and rebuilding, to take care of the increased growth in population for two hundred years, has caused them to be displaced by less aged houses, but there are still standing a few old dwellings that were erected before the year 1700, retaining their quaint architecture and original timbers. In the old burying ground on Charter Street one can walk about among the



10 (Essex Street.) View of the historic main street, which was originally an Indian path through the forest. First building on the right the site of the first church. See tablet. 9

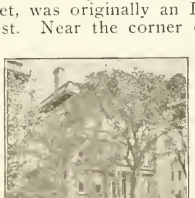
headstones that mark the graves of the pioneers of that early day, and in the fine museum of antiquities at the Essex Institute, one can see specimens of the wigs they wore, the queer bonnets for the ladies, the tinder box, andirons, roasting jack or chafing dish with which they prepared their meals, the old pewter ware and blue china they ate from, the foot stove they took to church to keep their feet warm, flax wheels and quilting frames used by the housewives, hour-glasses, sun-dials, flintlock muskets, horse pistols, and many other interesting things.



11 (21 Washington St.) The old bakery is one of the most interesting of Salem's old houses, because it has undergone little change or repair, and its black, weather beaten sides, crumbling brick foundation, and corners sagging from the perpendicular, speak plainly of the two centuries it has survived. Inside the low studded little room used for a bakery, the old beams will be seen to have been hewn from the rough log with an axe, and their crude ornamentation accomplished with auger bores. Its clapboards covering the outside, it can be seen, were shrived from the log in the primitive way, by hand, and a peep through the chinks in them will show the space between the outer and inner walls to be cemented with brick and mortar a common means of protection in early days against fire and bullets.

Gov. John Endicott and ship Abigail, which brought him and his colony over.

Tradition says that the main thoroughfare, Essex street, was originally an Indian path through the forest. Near the corner of Essex and Washington Streets is the spot where Roger Conant erected the first house built in Salem, and near here also was the first meeting house. Historic old street! Along its narrow and tortuous way in 1692, passed the hangman's processions, on the way to Gallows Hill with the condemned "witches;" here, too, passed the cart, with a Quaker woman tied behind, bared to the waist, receiving at every step a stroke from the sheriff's whip that brought the blood; up Washington Street a few paces was located the whipping post, where all public offenders were beaten with the lash. Here have Generals Washington, Gage, Lafayette, and many other dignitaries been paraded as the guests of the city.



12 Essex Institute.

THE WITCHCRAFT CRAZE IN SALEM.

THAT incident which has brought Salem the most notoriety before the world, is the hanging of the witches here in 1692.

Back two centuries ago the reality of witchcraft was generally believed, in Europe and this country (it is even today in rural places) and old court records everywhere show an occasional arrest and conviction of some farmer, servant or other person for bewitching a neighbor's cow or hurting his person.

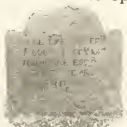
13 Witchcraft Suspicion (a painting in Public Library).

But in Salem, in 1692, there occurred a regular epidemic of witch manifestations and accusations. The beginning of the craze is traced to a party of girls, in a neighborhood out in Danvers (two, only nine and eleven years old), who used to gather together for a good time at play. There was an old brown-skinned servant woman in one of the families in the neighborhood, named Tituba, who hailed from India, and was skilled in some of the arts of conjuring for which the Hindoos are noted. With suggestions or teachings from this old woman the children practiced pranks of palmistry, necromancy and fortune-telling on each other, until they attained considerable skill. Finally they began to claim that they could not control themselves, acted strangely, crept under chairs and benches, made wild gestures and uttered strange exclamations. Their parents became alarmed and called in the village doctor, who pronounced them bewitched. They would be seized with spasms and apparently be afflicted with painful torture, and upon being questioned as to who it was that bewitched them, accused the old Indian servant and two other women.

14 (310 Essex St.) The witch house, so called because of the tradition that some of the preliminary trials were held there.

Amidst intense public excitement, the three women were arrested, tried and committed to prison, but the children kept on being afflicted and others were accused. The craze spread like wildfire, and the mischief sped hot-foot to surrounding towns. Topsfield, Amesbury, Marblehead, Ipswich, Malden, Reading, Lynn, Andover and other places began to suspect persons in their neighborhood, and sent them to Salem for imprisonment and trial.

15 (At Court House) Copy of the death warrant of Bridget Bishop, one of the "witches."



16 (Charter St. Cemetery.) Gravestone of Judge Hathorne, one of the judges at the witch trials.

Whether or not there were some persons who were really guilty of exerting an influence over the afflicted ones, something like what would be called hypnotic suggestion today, it is clear that most of the poor suspects were entirely innocent, and became victims because of some little oddity of character in some cases, and in others upon the merest chance of circumstance; and when they came to trial, the most flimsy and ridiculous evidence was admitted against them.

17 Pins, which the witches were charged with sticking into persons.

The trials took place before a court of seven judges appointed by the Governor for the purpose, the sessions being packed to the doors with

people, and attended with most dramatic and exciting scenes. The children were brought into court as witnesses against the accused, and while testifying would be stricken with spasms and scream with pain at every motion the prisoner made. If she wrung her hands, they would say that they were pinched, and if she bit her lip they would cry that they were bitten.

Observing that there was no possible chance for those who proclaimed their innocence, and

18
Court Scene at one of the Witch trials. (A painting at Essex Institute.)

that old Tituba and one Deliverance Hobbs, were granted lenience because they confessed and expressed sorrow for tormenting the children, other victims took the cue, and, in despair, confessed also, which became a strong factor in misguiding the judges. They had the suffering girls before them, and an infuriated populace around them, inspired with a religious determination to stamp out the damnable business which they believed to be the work of the devil himself. The spectators present were beside themselves with impatience for vengeance and execution. It is related that one furious woman took off her shoe and flung it at the prisoner in court to express her contempt. In the mad delirium, every person accused was adjudged guilty in advance, and everything was evidence. In one case, where a good woman had led such an unimpeachable life, and there was so little evidence against her, that the judges overcame their prejudices and pronounced a verdict of "not guilty," such an uproar of disapproval was produced among the people, that they were forced to withdraw the verdict and make a new return "guilty," and the woman was hanged.

19
(In Broad St. Cemetery.) Gravestone of Sheriff Corwin, who arrested and executed the witches.

Much uncanny and superstitious testimony was given regarding apparitions in the shape of large hairy things, red cats, yellow birds and agents of the "devil," who rode through space mounted on sticks.

Fourteen women and five men were hanged, and hundreds were arrested and thrown into prison before the fury of the populace spent itself, and the afflicted girls became discredited by crying out against some persons so secure in the love and esteem of the community that no one would longer believe their accusations.

20 Gallows Hill, upon which the witches were hanged.

Two hundred years has not yet put us far enough away from the event to get a perspective that sees and explains the causes of the remarkable manifestations recorded, with any unanimity of opinion.

First, it is unquestionable that there are many persons today (some of them intelligent enough to read and write) who believe in witchcraft now as well as then.

There are those who do not believe in witches, and eliminate the theory that any one was bewitched, but are of the opinion that the devil caused all the hallucination, and was back of all the mischief.

There are some who believe Minister Parris to have been the arch-demon of the whole affair; say he beat his servant Tituba, till he wrung a false confession from her, and then took upon himself the office of public prosecutor, questioning witnesses in such a way as to elicit answers that would enable him to vent his fanatical hatred and malice towards persons who had incurred his displeasure.

Then there are some who view the whole craze as a silly and inexcusable delusion, and hang their heads in penitent shame for the credulity and folly of their ancestors.

Others believe that hypnotism played a large part in the proceedings, and that fright and superstition did the rest.

There are others who believe that none of the theories satisfactorily explain the phenomena, and that though some of the things could be accounted for by hypnotic influence, on the whole it is much of a mystery that must be open to man's understanding at some time in the future.

The modern science of psychology is making many discoveries that have an important bearing upon the hallucinations attending the outbreak of the witch craze in Salem. They find that it is possible to impress upon a person of the right nervous temperament the belief that he sees a cat or dog, or any other object, by what is called hypnotic suggestion; and that it is possible to cause a subject to cry out with pain and imagine himself pinched or bitten, by merely making the mental suggestion to him.

It was believed in the days of witchcraft that, never mind where a witch was, she could torment a person a great distance off by making a rag doll or puppet and sticking pins into it or pricking it, in lieu of the person, and the person would feel the pain, which finds a surprising analogy in the discovery that it is possible with a sensitive hypnotic subject, to make him feel the sensation of acute pain in his leg or arm by pinching the leg or arm of a doll that is not within his sight or hearing.

There is, further, a symptom of the mind known to physicians who are specialists in nervous diseases, called auto-suggestion, in which a person imagines himself tormented by others, and so strong is the hallucination that appearances of a whelp or bite actually appear on the skin.

These psychological phenomena open up new lines of speculation that can be followed to various conclusions in regard to the afflicted girls who were the cause of all the trouble, and may bring forth a new literature that will sift facts from superstition and clear up much of the mystery that now surrounds the history of the craze.

SALEM'S PREDOMINANCE IN THE REVOLUTION.

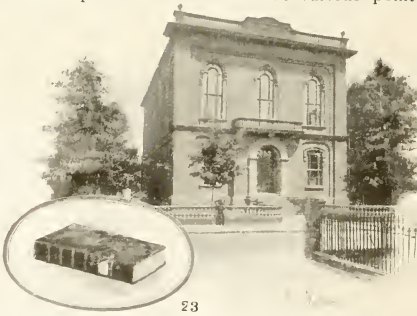
THE Provincial Assembly was sitting here when it selected Samuel Adams, John Adams, Thomas Cushing, Robert Treat Paine and James Bowdoin, the first delegates to be appointed to the Continental Congress, which later adopted the Declaration of Independence.

For this action the Assembly was dissolved by a proclamation from the king's governor. An official came with the document to the assembly, but was refused entrance, so read it from the stairs to the multitude outside. This was the last Provincial Assembly to be held in Massachusetts. Two months later the members reassembled at Salem, elected John Hancock temporary chairman and resolved themselves into a Provincial Congress the first one among the American provinces. The spirit of resistance to British usurpation that pervaded the colonies for several years prior to the Revolution, was very strong in Salem. The town records show repeated resolutions of protest against the duties imposed by the king's government. When the oppressive Stamp Act was being enforced, and the colonists were evading and resisting the measure, a man who "told" on a vessel in Salem Harbor that was trying to elude payment of duties was tarred and feathered on the Common ridden in a cart through the streets with the wor "Informer" in large letters on his back, an driven out of town. Later, when the colonists ha collected powder and firearms at various point

21 John Hancock.

SAMUEL ADAMS JOHN ADAMS

22
Two of the delegates appointed at Salem to the Continental Congress.



23

The Athenæum library and one of the books of the large collection that w captured from an English vessel, in the English channel, during the war the Rebellion, by a Salem privateer. Also the autograph of Dr. Kirwa the distinguished scientist who owned the books, as it appears on the f leafs to some of the volumes.

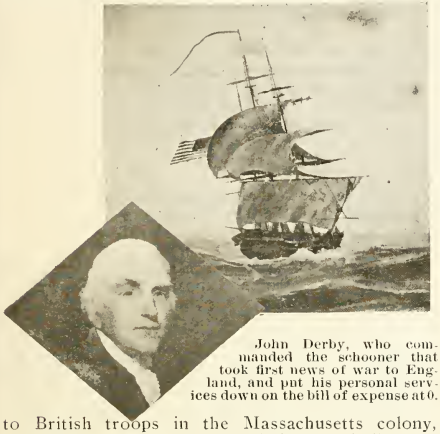
clearly seeing that an armed conflict was likely t ensue, General Gage sent a large detachment o soldiers to Salem by way of Marblehead to searc for a store o cannon know to be secrete here. Thirty o forty militiame and a concours of citizens gath ered in force o the banks of th little river o the north sid of the town lifted the draw bridge and defie There was a scuffl the soldier's further progress.

24 Bridge over North River.

25 Monument at Bridge.

26 British Soldiers at North Bridge.

between the soldiers and some citizens who were scuttling their boats to render them useless to the British, words were bandied back and forth across the breach, and some of the more daring spirits, with the Boston massacre a fresh recollection to all, defied the British to fire. Finally the commander compromised with the citizens, abandoned the search, returned to Marblehead, and reembarked his soldiers on the ship they came in. This was the first organized and armed resistance



John Derby, who commanded the schooner that took first news of war to England, and put his personal services down on the bill of expense at 0.

to British troops in the Massachusetts colony, and happened three months before a similar expedition marched to Concord, and on the way met the minutemen on Lexington Green.

With war openly declared, came Salem's real opportunity to be of assistance in the movement for American independence. She was a maritime port, with a fine harbor, her rich merchants were owners of large fleets of vessels, and her citizens hardy seafaring men, inured to danger and hardship.

From this port sped the fleet little vessel, "The Quero," which carried the first news to astonished England that nearly three hundred of her soldiers had been killed in an encounter with the farmers in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, outsailing the British vessel that had started some days before, as the colonial leaders were anxious to get their side of the story to their English friends first, for its political influence.

As fast as cannon could be procured, letters of marque and reprisal were taken out, until nearly every vessel of size owned in Salem was on the high seas privateering against English commerce. The ports of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Charleston and Savannah were closed by the British, and Salem and the other small seaports near her became the principal source of the country's intercourse with Europe for supplies of arms and military stores. With intrepid daring, her privateers cruised wherever British commerce could be found, even in the English Channel and Irish Sea, capturing trading vessels and transports, and sending them home as prizes.

This assistance to the American cause, when the country was in its infancy and fighting the strongest sea-power in existence, can hardly be estimated. England's commerce was almost annihilated, marine insurance rates were put up to figures never heard of before, merchants and ship-owners were so terrorized and annoyed by the plucky little American craft that swarmed her shores that they dared not ship goods in their own bottoms at all.

How much influence this condition of affairs exerted on the English mind (so slow to give in) when they consented to talk peace at Paris, has never been taken much into consideration by historians, but it must necessarily have been tremendous, and how large a share Salem craft had in the work may be shown by the fact that over one hundred and fifty privateers were sent out from this port, and they captured 455 English prizes, a

27
Salem ship eluding capture (a painting at Academy Museum).

number which becomes vitally significant when compared with the estimate that only about 700 prizes were captured during the war by the entire fleet of American privateers.

One of the prizes captured in the war forms a part of the Athenæum library today, it being a large collection of scientific volumes captured in the English Channel.

A Salem vessel took the first news of the war to Europe, and a Salem vessel brought the first news of peace, through the signing of the treaty at Paris, in 1783.

The rules governing the sale of privateer prizes, that the capturing crew and the owner should divide the proceeds, gave rich returns to the already wealthy merchants, and in the War of 1812, as well as in the War of the Revolution, added largely to the foundations of many of the hereditary fortunes that support the first families of Salem today.

SALEM'S LEADERSHIP IN SEA COMMERCE.

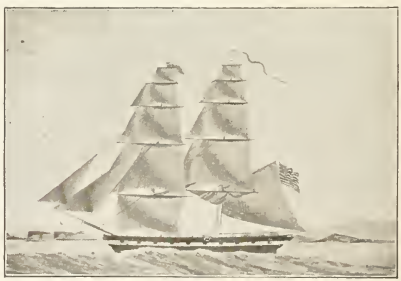
BUT Salem's crown of glory was her shipping and her commerce. A time there was, when in the far East, in China and Japan, in the Indies, in Sumatra and Java, and other far-away ports beyond the Cape of Good Hope, the name of Salem was known. New England and America were but abstract terms, but Salem was a known port. The ships she built and the ships she manned were penetrating every port of the world, carrying to many of them for the first time, the flag of a new and unknown country.

28
(178 Derby St.) Old Derby wharf. Sketch from Romance and Reality of the New Eng. Const.

As early as 1629, fishing had become an established industry, and 20 years later Salem was sending her exports to the West Indies and even across the ocean to Spain, France and Holland. Side by side with and resulting from it, came ship-building. Salem's commerce had become progressive; she needed ships, and Salem ship-builders supplied the demand. Ship yards crowded upon each other, and fleet after fleet of Salem-built as well as Salem-sent vessels of all kinds began to whiten the blue of the ocean.

29
(161 Essex St.) The museum, built by the old sea-captains to hold relics brought home from over the seas.

Ship-masters and merchants began to grow rich. Large houses, large even for the present day, began to be built. Spacious grounds surrounded them. Characteristic of some of them, were cupolas on the roof, from which the enterprising merchant with his spy-glass could recognize the white sails of his schooner or brig, far out in the harbor. What they brought he would not know, for on the captain alone depended the nature of the cargo and the success of the voyage. His was an absolute command, and rare and princely fortunes were the profits on some of the cargoes he brought. One cargo cleared for its owner $100,000; another was disposed of at a profit of 800%. The first load of pepper berries ever brought into the country was brought by a Salem ship, and for a while trade in this commodity was exclusively Salem's.



One of the trading vessels of Salem's commercial era.

With her push and enterprise, no wonder, then, that the business flourished and the merchants grew rich. Elias Hasket Derby, who died in 1799, left a fortune of over one million dollars, supposed to have been the largest private fortune left in this country in the 18th century.

Of the homes of the ship-masters and merchants, many remain today, pointing proudly to that prosperous past. Yet many of them were too costly or too large to be maintained by descendants of lesser fortunes and have been transferred to organizations or city institutions. One fine old mansion that stood in Derby Square, the magnificent home which Elias Hasket Derby built for him-

self. was too expensive to be maintained with its spacious grounds in the heart of a growing city and was actually torn down, and the site it occupied given over to a town market house which stands in the square today.

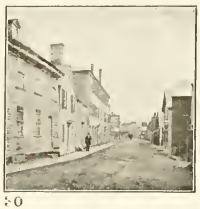
Ship America, very fast, and famous in her day.

The architecture of these homes is interesting and suggestive. Built in a generous, ample style; broad of foundation and high as to walls; dignified; simple, yet commanding, they are truly indicative of the characters of those early shipmasters, their height and breadth faithfully representing the high broad-mindedness of these men. about which, like their houses, there was nothing superfluous or small, but all on a scale commensurate with what they attempted and what they achieved.

A venture to sea in those days was a hazardous undertaking. Ships were small, and there were neither maps nor charts to guide them. On every side, danger lurked. On the ocean from wind and current and the great number of pirate ships which infested every sea and made the outcome of every trip a matter of chance and uncertainty. But the danger was not on sea alone. In strange ports they ventured, ports never before visited by English speaking people. What their welcome might be they could not tell. They might escape a pirate ship, only to be cruelly slaughtered by wildest savages.

A group of four of Salem's famous old ship merchants.

So widespread were Salem's shipping interests, and over so vast a territory were her ships scattered that when the Revolution was imminent, there were over eight hundred Salem seamen scattered over the waters of the globe, and liable to capture by British men-of-war.



View of old Derby street, that runs along the water front.

The days of Salem's shipping are past, but if one would seek the scenes of that busy activity, a walk down Derby Street will be of interest, for while dingy shops and tenement houses crowd upon each other, there are still evidences of the old days in the stately mansions near the Custom House, and in the old wharves which still run out into the harbor. Derby wharf, the largest, is the most interesting and picturesque. The few buildings still standing on it, once so necessary when its sides were lined with home-returned craft, are fast falling to ruin, and it is today a gray, melancholy, ghostly relic of the past.

Of the wonderful experiences encountered, of the discoveries made, of the triumphs won, and of the treasures brought home from distant lands, volumes might be written. Almost every home in Salem has some curiously wrought piece of furniture, some gem of inlaid work, some bit of priceless embroidery or other treasure brought back from over the seas, while the East India Marine Society, founded for the very purpose of preserving these treasures, has a most remarkable collection from every country of the world, including gorgeous feathered apparel, earthenware and basketry from Bolivia and the Amazon; bows and arrows, tusk necklaces, clubs, and boomerangs from savages of the Fiji Islands and Australia; queer musical instruments, coins, vases and dolls from Siam; exquisitely carved ivory and hideous great images from China; and countless other trinkets and objects of curiosity.

Here, too, are portraits of the old shipmasters and merchants whose sagacity and courage were the foundations of Salem's commercial prosperity; models and pictures of those famous vessels which braved unknown waters and triumphed over all obstacles, thus making for Salem a name glorious because of the seas she conquered, the ports she opened to the world, and the marvelous commercial era she instituted not alone to her own glory but to the glory of her descendants and the new world which she represented.

The coming of the railroads was an event that marked the decline of Salem's shipping interests. Such centres of railroad commerce as Boston, New York and Philadelphia could give so much better and cheaper freight facilities to incoming cargoes that gradually the entrances at Salem dropped off until buyers could find as good or better assortments of goods in other ports.

NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE.

THE event of Hawthorne's birth here in the year 1804, bids fair to make Salem more known to the world than all else that has occurred before or since, for the name of Hawthorne is growing in fame as the years go by, and it is already noted that two-thirds of the many thousands of visitors and sightseers that flock to the old city every season are more interested in places and things associated with him than in anything else here.

31

(27 Union Street.) Though interesting to all as his birthplace, the house is not much associated with Hawthorne's life, because the family lived here only a few years after he was born. The house is now owned by a sturdy Irish woman and her husband, who keep the shutters drawn tight, and permit no one to enter having refused, it is said, proffered fees as high as $5.00.

Hawthorne was a sailor's son, and he came from an ancestry of sailors, but his father died when he was very young, and he was taken in charge by a landsman, his Uncle Manning, sent to college for an education, and supported for ten years thereafter, while he made discouraging attempts at authorship, and deliberated on a profession.

When he was a boy, his family (mother and two sisters) frequently spent a season at a country house in Maine, where he hunted and fished and skated in winter, so his boyhood was not much different from that of many other boys. But after he came home from college he drifted into a life of solitary seclusion, that would be hard to parallel. His mother and sisters were very reclusive in their habits, each living alone in her own room; there was no family meal, no family circle; they rarely or never went visiting, and visitors seldom came to them. Hawthorne fell into the same way of life, stayed in his chamber most of the day, and frequently had his meals left at his locked door. When he went out, it was usually after dark or early in the morning, for a solitary walk to the seashore.

32

(At Essex Institute.) Desk used by Hawthorne at the Custom House and upon which he probably jotted down some of the first notes for the Scarlet Letter.

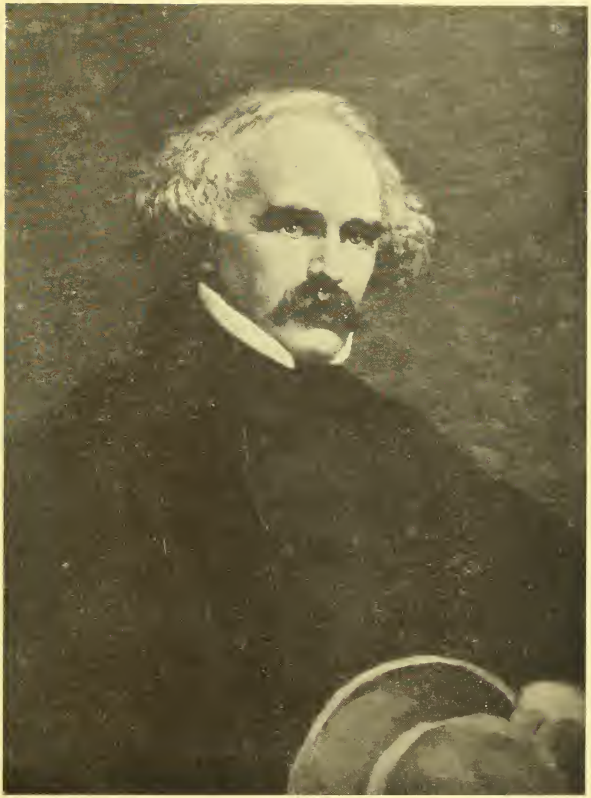
Having lived away from Salem so much, he had few acquaintances among other boys, and it can be sure that what few people were aware of his existence did not look with favor upon such an "aimless idler" as he appeared to be.

33

(10½ and 12 Herbert St.) This house is most identified with Hawthorne's life in Salem, for it was here that he lived during the ten years after he returned from college. He himself wrote, in after years, upon visiting the old room under the eaves he used to occupy: "Here I am, in my old chamber, where I produced those stupendous works of fiction which have since impressed the universe with wonderment and awe. To this chamber, doubtless, in all succeeding ages, pilgrims will come to pay their tribute of reverence;—they will put off their shoes at the threshold for fear of desecrating the tattered old carpets! 'There,' they will exclaim, 'is the very bed in which he slumbered, and where he was visited by those ethereal visions which he afterwards fixed forever in glowing words. There is the washstand at which this exalted personage cleansed himself from the stains of earth, and rendered his outward man a fitting exponent of the pure soul within. There, in its mahogany frame, is the dressing-glass which often reflected that noble brow, those hyacinthine locks, that mouth bright with smiles or tremulous with feeling, that flashing or melting eye, that—in short, every item of the magnanimous face of this unexampled man. There is the pine table,—there the old flag-bottomed chair on which he sat, and at which he scribbled, during his agonies of inspiration! There is the old chest of drawers in which he kept what shirts a poor author may be supposed to have possessed! There is the closet in which he deposited his threadbare suit of black! There is the worn-out shoe-brush with which this polished writer polished his boots. There is'—but I believe this will be pretty much all, so here I close the catalogue."

During these long, listless years, he was trying to make an impression as an author, but his efforts attracted no attention, and brought him no pecuniary reward, which discouraged him to the verity of gloomy despair, until at one time he was

ORIGINAL PAINTING AT ESSEX INSTITUTE



(14 Mall Street.) This is the house Hawthorne occupied at the time he wrote the Scarlet Letter. Here it is that Field came and secured the finished manuscript, which visit he has described as follows: "In the winter of 1849, after he had been ejected from the custom-house, I went down to Salem to see him and inquire after his health, for we heard he had been suffering from illness. He was then living in a modest wooden house in Mall Street, if I remember rightly the location. I found him alone in a chamber over the sitting-room of the dwelling; and as the day was cold, he was hovering near a stove. We fell into talk about his future prospects, and he was, as I feared I should find him, in a very desponding mood. 'Now,' said I, 'is the time for you to publish, for I know during these years in Salem you must have got something ready for the press.' 'Nonsense,' said he; 'what heart had I to write anything, when my publishers (M. and Company) have been so many years trying to sell a small edition of the 'Twice-Told Tales'?' I still pressed upon him the good chances he would have now with something new. 'Who would risk publishing a book for me, the most unpopular writer in America?' 'I would,' said I, 'and would start with an edition of two thousand copies of anything you write.' 'What madness!' he exclaimed, 'your friendship for me gets the better of your judgment. No, no,' he continued, 'I have no money to indemnify a publisher's losses on my account.' I looked at my watch and found that the train would soon be starting for Boston, and I knew there was not much time to lose in trying to discover what had been his literary work during these last few years in Salem. I remember that I pressed him to reveal to me what he had been writing. He shook his head, and gave me to understand he had produced nothing. At that moment I caught sight of a bureau or set of drawers near where we were sitting; and immediately it occurred to me that hidden away somewhere in that article of furniture was a story or stories by the author of the 'Twice-Told Tales,' and I became so positive of it that I charged him vehemently with the fact. He seemed surprised, I thought, but shook his head again; and I rose to take my leave, begging him not to come into the cold entry, saying I would come back and see him again in a few days. I was hurrying down the stairs when he called after me from the chamber, asking me to stop a moment. Then, quickly stepping into the entry with a roll of manuscript in his hands, he said: 'How in Heaven's name did you know this thing was there? As you have found me out, take what I have written, and tell me, after you get home, and have time to read it, if it is good for anything. It is either very good or very bad,—I don't know which.' "

(54 Turner St.) Hawthorne's cousin, Miss Susan Ingersoll, used to live in the house now known as the House of the Seven Gables, and Hawthorne was a frequent visitor there.

On one of his visits, Miss Ingersoll mentioned to him that the house once had seven gables, and showed him the beams and mortises to prove the statement. Hawthorne was much interested; in fact, Miss Ingersoll afterwards related that he seemed perfectly infatuated with the sound of the phrase "house of the seven gables," and remarked, "It is just what I wanted."

In later years, there has also come to light a copy of a letter written by Hawthorne just after a visit to Rev. Horace Ingersoll, at Philadelphia, in which he said, "I went with David Roberts to make a call on the Duchess (a nickname he always applied to his cousin) at the old Turner Street house . . . I had a more than ordinary pleasant visit, and among other things, in speaking of the old house, she said it has had in the history of its changes and alterations, seven gables. The expression was new, and struck me very forcibly; I think I shall make something of it. I expressed a wish to go all over the house; she assented, and I repaired to the attic, and there was no corner or dark hole I did not peep into. I could readily make out five gables; and on returning to the parlor I inquired where the two remaining gables were placed; the information I received was that the remaining gables were on the north side, and that when Colonel Turner became the owner of the house he removed the 'lean-to' on which were the missing gables, and made amends by placing three gables on the L, or addition which he made on the south side of the house; the mark of beams still remains in the studding to show precisely where they were."

Another interesting story in connection with the house, is told thus: Horace Ingersoll "one day fell asleep in his chair in the south parlor, in such a position that he could be seen through the entryway by a person passing in the street. . . . Seeing him in this way as he approached the house, Hawthorne was at first startled by his friend's appearance, sitting there motionless in the half shadow and cross lights. To reassure himself, Hawthorne tapped on the window and waked the sleeper, and then, rushing into the house, he exclaimed: 'Good Heavens! Horace, I thought you were dead.'" The correspondence of this incident with the one in the story, describing the dead judge, sitting in the armchair throughout the night [illegible] ily suggest itself.

almost a subject for suicide. The hopeless despair of "The Devil in Manuscript," and "The Journal of a Solitary Man" is credited with being largely autobiographical, and a picture of his mood of mind at this time. He received heroic encouragement and cheer from his college friend Bridge, at this time.

Fate and chance combined to bring him out of his lonely hermitage at last. The Peabodys, who lived almost near enough to be neighbors, got wind of his connection with some literary efforts that they had noticed, and by gentle approaches finally opened acquaintance with the author and his family. His second visit to their house brought him face to face with his future wife, the youngest daughter of the Peabody family.

Used b l permis- mission ughton & Miffli ublishers of el Haw- tho s wife."

Hawthorne's wife, *née* Sophia Peabody.

he Peabody's influence got him a position as weigher and gauger in the Boston Custom House, and he soon left Salem not to return until several years later, when he came back to assume the duties of surveyor in the Salem Custom House.

He had been spending the intervening years at he Boston Custom House, at Brook Farm, and Concord, in "The Old Manse." A tenderly de- oted wife had made his married life supremely ppy; three children had added sunshine to his fe, and he had almost outgrown his former cursed habits of solitude."

The four years that he filled the post of sur- eyor of customs at Salem, were dull and irksome years of humdrum official duty, during which he

34

(178Derby Street.) Custom House where Hawthorne discovered the material for the Scarlet Letter.

35

(St. Peter Street.) Gravestone of the actual Surveyor Pue, in St. Peter's Church graveyard.

36

(53 Charter St.) This house, the home of the Peabodys, must have had very fond association in Hawthorne's regard, for it was here that he first met his wife and where his courtship progressed. This house also figures in Hawthorne's "Dolliver Romance" and "Dr. Grimshawe's Secret."

discontinued literary work entirely. But it was while at the Custom House that he discovered the materials for "The Scarlet Letter," and when he was displaced from office at the end of the term he at once began that great romance. It was the first long story he had ever attempted, and was an instant success, selling so rapidly that the first edition of five thousand copies was exhausted in two weeks.

It brought him the substantial and much-needed pecuniary reward that his pen had heretofore failed to secure, and made his name imperishable in literature.

But the introductory chapter to the book, in which he described his recent life at the Custom House, and the finding of the materials for the story, raised a perfect storm in Salem, for his description of the characters that surrounded him there were so clear and unmistakable that they were recognizable to all the townspeople, who were greatly incensed at the liberty he had taken, and the picturesque exaggeration his imaginative pen had undoubtedly thrown around them.

He moved soon after this to the Berkshire Hills, and never returned again to reside in Salem. His next literary work was "The House of the Seven Gables," which has its setting in Salem. At the time he wrote the story there were a number of old houses in town, with an unusual number of peaked gables, that could easily have suggested to his fancy "The House of the Seven Gables," but those who have hunted here for a house with exactly the same dimensions and architectural proportions as the house in the story, have been unsuccessful in their search, for Hawthorne's imagination was too creative and fanciful for him to duplicate like a draughtsman or copyist. It is very likely that he embodied in his house points gathered here and there from several old houses, but the house which unquestionably furnished the source of his inspiration for "The House of the Seven Gables," is still standing, and receives the enthusiastic greeting of thousands of Hawthorne lovers, every season, in spite of its modernized aspect, and coat of bright yellow paint, so out of conformity with the gray, weather-beaten appearance described in the story.

Besides these, there are numerous places associated with Hawthorne's short stories, which one can see if he has the day and the inclination.

OTHER THINGS TO SEE.

THERE are many other objects of interest in Salem if the visitor has time at his disposal. Many distinguished men have had their homes here, including Governor Endicott, who was the second governor of the colony, Roger Williams, who was the pioneer settler of the state of Rhode Island, Governor Bradstreet, twice Governor of the colony, Timothy Pickering, who was Secretary of State in Washington's cabinet, Rufus Choate, the celebrated lawyer, Nathaniel Bowditch, one of the most eminent mathematicians of his time, Wm. H. Prescott, the historian and author of "Ferdinand and Isabella" and "Philip the Second," Jones Very, the poet, whose writings so pleased Emerson that he had them published at his own expense.

37
Timothy Pickering House.

There are associations connected with a still larger list of eminent men including Daniel Webster, who made here his famous argument in the White murder case, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Samuel Adams, George Washington, General Lafayette, Henry Clay, Governor Andrew, General Grant, Sir William Pepperrell, Hugh Peters.

There are many fine old mansions in the city and their colonial architecture and doorways are an attraction to the visitor and an object of professional interest to architects from all over the country.

38
State Normal School.

The Institute, Academy of Science, State Normal School, and Libraries distinguish Salem as an educational centre. Hours could be profitably spent at the rooms of the Essex Institute alone, or at the Academy of Science.

39
House of White murder, case celebrated by Daniel Webster's pl ea.

Her seaside resorts, "the Willows," and "Bakers Island;" her proximity to the fashionable colonies at Beverly Farms, Manchester, Beach Bluff, Clifton, Marblehead Neck and Swampscott; the open car rides in all directions; and the fine roads for driving and wheeling, along the North Shore both ways, — all make Salem a pleasant place to visit.

The visitor interested in these things can find further information regarding them in the very complete and thorough guide to the city, issued by the Essex Institute.

40

(4 Central St.) This picturesque doorway is the entrance to the old custom house, which was in use before the present one was built. Many times have the princely old merchants in the transaction of their commercial interests, passed in and out here. Its chief interest to the visitor today is the unique and exclusive collection he can find inside, consisting of souvenirs, silhouettes and photographs, Custom house receipts with Hawthorne's signature, when he held the office of Surveyor of Customs. Many different portraits of Hawthorne, pictures, souvenir postal cards, witch posters, copies of Hawthorne's Scarlet Letter and House of Seven Gables, all the guide books to any place in this vicinity, the only brief and complete story published of that fascinating chapter in American history "Witchcraft in Salem."

This is not the custom house in which Hawthorne held the position of surveyor of customs.

L of C.

PD 181

The beautiful seal of the city, representing an East India merchant, with a Salem ship approaching his shore; and bearing the Latin motto: "To the farthest port of the rich East,"

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